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## SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

ACCORDING to a cablegram from Stockholm to the daily press, Charles Edouard Guillaume Breteuil, head of the International Bureau of Weights and Measures, was awarded the Nobel prize in physics for 1920 on November 11 by the Swedish Academy of Science. The prize in chemistry has been awarded to Professor Adolf Ossian Aschan, of Helsingfors University in recognition of his researches in connection with the production of synthetic rubber. The award of Nobel prizes to Professor Jules Bordet, of Brussels, and Professor August Krogh, of Copenhagen, has been recorded in SCIENCE, but, following a press despatch, the subject of Professor Krogh's work was incorrectly given. He is professor of animal physiology at the University of Copenhagen and was a pioneer in the study of the forces governing gas exchange in the lungs and other parts of the body. Professor Bordet is now lecturing in this country on immunology and anaphylaxis. He has given the Herter lectures at the Johns Hopkins University, the Cutter lecture at Harvard University, a Hanna lecture at Western Reserve University and will give shortly a course of Hitchcock lectures at the University of California.

DR. THOMAS F. HUNT, dean of the college of agriculture of the University of California, Leon M. Estabrook, statistician and chief of the Bureau of Crop Estimates of the United States Department of Agriculture and Harvey J. Sconce, of Sidell, Ill., were appointed delegates from the United States to the general assembly of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome, November 3-15. Dean Hunt, who has been appointed permanent delegate to succeed David Lubin, is in Europe on sabbatical leave from the university, and reached Rome in time to take part in the meeting.

DR. J. H. WHITE, assistant surgeon general and Surgeon G. N. Guiteras have been designated by Surgeon General Cumming to represent the United States at the sixth International Sanitary Conference to be held at Montevideo, Uruguay, on December 19 and 20.

SURGEON-GENERAL M. W. IRELAND, U. S. Army, has been appointed a member of the Council on Medical Education, of the American Medical Association to succeed the late Dr. Isador Dyer, of Tulane University.

THE appointment of T. W. Norcross as chief engineer of the Forest Service is announced by Colonel W. B. Greeley, head of the service. Mr. Norcross succeeds Mr. O. C. Merrill, who resigned to become executive secretary of the Federal Power Commission.

MR. F. R. COLE, of Stanford University, has been appointed associate curator in dipterology, and Mr. Chase Littlejohn, of Redwood City, California, assistant curator in ornithology, in the Museum of the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco.

ACCORDING to the *Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences* Mr. P. C. Holdt has been appointed research associate at the Bureau of Standards, by the American Paint and Varnish Manufacturers' Association, and Mr. E. J. Ruh by the International Nickel Company.

DR. NORAH E. DOWELL, instructor in geology at Smith College, has been appointed assistant geologist in the U. S. Geological Survey for duty as office geologist and research assistant in the Ground Water Division.

JOHN W. CALVIN, professor of chemistry at the University of Nebraska and associate chemist in the station, has become chemist in the experiment station of the Dominican Republic.

J. C. McNUTT has resigned as head of the department of animal husbandry in the Massachusetts College to become eastern representative of the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association, with headquarters at Amherst.

DR. DOUGLAS R. SEMMES, professor of geology at the University of Alabama, has resigned his work at the university and accepted the position of assistant chief geologist of the Compañía Mexicana de Petróleo, "El Aguila," and will be located permanently at the company's headquarters in Tampico.

AFTER twenty-five years of active service in teaching and research work in applied chemis-

try and chemical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. William H. Walker has tendered his resignation as director of the Division of Industrial Cooperation and Research to take effect on January 1. He will resume his consulting practise which was interrupted in 1917 by his entering the service, and, although no longer officially connected with the institute, will maintain his interest in the development of the division and will closely cooperate with it in the fulfilment of the contracts under the Technology Plan already existing. This division acts for the Institute of Technology in the administration of its obligation incurred under the Technology Plan by which over 200 of the most prominent industries of the country have made contracts involving annual retainer fees of over a quarter million dollars. He will be succeeded by Professor Charles L. Norton, professor of industrial physics at the institute and director of the Research Laboratory of Industrial Physics.

THE *Journal* of the American Medical Association quoting from the *Deutsche medizinische Wochenschrift* states that the Vienna physiologist, Professor E. Steinach, is intending to remove to Stockholm, where he will continue his research on physiology and biology.

THE *Journal* of the Washington Academy of Sciences reports the following foreign visitors to Washington: Dr. R. J. Tillyard, director of the Cawthron Institute of Scientific Research at Nelson, New Zealand; Dr. T. Harvey Johnston, of Queensland, who is on a mission to various parts of North and South America for the purpose of studying the cactus and means of controlling it, and Mr. A. K. Haagner, director of the zoological park at Pretoria, South Africa, who came to the United States in charge of a shipload of African animals which had been collected at Pretoria during the war for various American zoological parks.

DR. W. E. S. TURNER, secretary of the Society of Glass Technology, the University of Sheffield, England, and forty members of

the society recently made a tour of the glass centers in America.

W. P. WOODING with a party from the United States Geological Survey have left for Haiti to conduct a reconnaissance geologic examination of the Republic of Haiti at the request of that government.

THE University of California has secured Mr. Bert A. Rudolph, a pathologist in the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington and a graduate of the State University, to develop further tests of control of apricot brown rot by spraying in the spring. The work will be carried on at the deciduous fruit station of the university and at Mountain View.

WINTHROP P. HAYNES, associate professor of geology at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, is on leave of absence for a year and is with the foreign production department of the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey. He will spend most of the winter with a geological surveying party in Mexico.

DR. A. C. TROWBRIDGE, professor of geology at the State University of Iowa, gave an address, November 3, as retiring president of the Iowa Chapter of the Society of Sigma Xi, "On the importance of sedimentation: a neglected phase of geological investigation."

DR. RAYMOND PEARL, of the Johns Hopkins University, on November 11, gave the Gross Lecture before the Philadelphia Pathological Society on "Some biological aspects of human mortality."

PROFESSOR ULRIC DAHLGREN, of Princeton University, delivered a lecture, on November 1, before the Franklin Institute of Philadelphia, on "The production of motion by animals."

DR. NELLIS B. FOSTER, of the Cornell Medical College, will deliver the third Harvey lecture at the New York Academy of Medicine, Saturday evening, November 20. His subject will be "Uræmia"

IT is announced in *Nature* that a course of three public lectures on "Present Tendencies of Philosophy in America," at King's College,

London, beginning on October 28 with a lecture on "New realism: its background and origin," was given by Professor W. P. Montague, professor of philosophy in Columbia University, New York City. The two other lectures were entitled: "New realism: its implication and promise," and on November 1, Professor J. E. Boodin, professor at Carleton College, Minn., gave a lecture on "Pragmatism: its right and left wings."

THE University of Bologna and the Royal Academy of Sciences held a joint commemoration service for the late Professor Righi on November 1, when an address was delivered by Professor Luigi Donati.

A GOLD medal, studded with diamonds, but valued chiefly because it had been "presented to Dr. S. D. Gross by his medical friends in commemoration of his fifty-first year in the profession, April 10, 1879," was recently given to Dr. J. Chalmers DaCosta, S. D. Gross professor of surgery at Jefferson Medical College, to be placed in the Jefferson College Museum.

PROFESSOR SAMUEL HANAWAY, who retired on account of health in 1916 from the department of mathematics in the College of the City of New York, has died at the age of 66.

M. H. P. STEENSBY, professor of geography at the University of Copenhagen, who was forty-five years old, died suddenly on board the liner *Frederik VIII.*, while returning from America, where he had been in connection with his investigations into the voyages of the old Norsemen to the coast of North America.

THE College of Physicians of Philadelphia announces that the next award of the Alvarenga Prize, amounting to about \$250, will be made, July 14, 1921, provided that an essay deemed worthy of the prize shall have been offered.

PROFESSOR W. C. ALLEE, secretary-treasurer, of the American Society of Zoologists, writes that the committee on hotel accommodations for the Chicago meetings have assigned the American Society of Zoologists to the Congress Hotel, Michigan Blvd. and Congress St. The rates range from \$3.00 to \$9.00 for single rooms and from \$7.00 up for double rooms.

This hotel is the headquarters for the American Association and for the biological societies and members are accordingly urged to reserve rooms at their earliest convenience. Members of the zoologists desiring less expensive rooms may make reservations in the relatively nearby Y. M. C. A. Hotel at 822 S. Wabash Avenue before December 1. Rates: 70 cents, 80 cents and one dollar.

THE publication of *World Agriculture* as the official organ of the American E. F. Farmers' Club and the World Agricultural Society, is announced in the *Experiment Station Record*. It will be issued quarterly from Amherst, Mass. The purposes of the magazine are announced as follows: To further a sympathetic understanding among all nations in matters relating to the production, distribution and consumption of the products of the soil; to encourage study of the principles which should control the agricultural policies of the world to the end that every individual may do his full duty and may enjoy his rightful share of the results; to aid in the application of these principles through the dissemination of information, the exchange of students and teachers between educational institutions, and the rendering of practical assistance in the agricultural regions devastated by the world war and wherever such assistance is needed; to promote the correlation on world lines of all agencies concerned in rural improvement, technical, scientific, economic and social, and a greater appreciation of the possibilities of the country for the development of the highest types of individual and social life. In addition to the World Agriculture Society the journal expects to print official items regarding the International Institute of Agriculture, the American E. F. Farmers' Club, American Country Life Association, the International Live Stock Breeders' Association, the Beaune Committee on World Cooperation in Agriculture and Country Life, the International Association of Agricultural Missions, the Agricultural Club of the North Carolina College, and the Agricultural Society of France. The June issue contains the officers of these organizations; reports of the Beaune conference of 1919, and

the Belgian national conference, and of the International Association of Agricultural Missions of 1920; a memorandum presented to the Peace Conference on World Agricultural Principles by President K. L. Butterfield, of the Massachusetts Agricultural College; a tribute to the late David Lubin; Some Impressions of French Agriculture by Captain E. N. Wentworth, assistant director of the college of agriculture, American E. F. University; the State Society of Agricultural Teaching in France, by G. Wery, director of the National Institute of Agronomy; several shorter articles relative to the reconstruction of French agriculture; and other topics.

#### UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

OFFERS of support and financial assistance towards the establishment of an agricultural college of university rank in the West Indies have been received from Trinidad, Barbados, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and the Leeward Islands, while Bermuda, although not in the West Indies, has offered an annual grant. On the recommendation of the West Indian Agricultural College Committee, Lord Milner has decided that the promises and prospects of support are sufficient to justify him in proceeding with the necessary arrangements for the establishment of the college. It will be situated in Trinidad, and plans for the buildings will shortly be prepared.

PART of the \$5,000,000 expected to be realized from a campaign for McGill University, Montreal, will be devoted to a building to house the departments of pathology, medical jurisprudence, hygiene and psychiatry. It is estimated that such a building would cost at least \$460,000, and its maintenance would require an endowment of \$150,000.

AT the college of engineering of the University of Wisconsin, A. A. Neff, graduate of the University of Nebraska, has been appointed associate professor of machine designing, and A. H. Anderson, of the Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, associate professor of steam and gas engineering.

Dr. B. J. SPENCE, professor of physics at the University of North Dakota, has resigned to accept a position in the department of physics of Northwestern University.

J. H. GOURLEY, professor of horticulture in the New Hampshire College, has become head of the horticultural department of the University of West Virginia.

#### DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

##### AN UNFAVORABLE SPAWNING SEASON FOR MULLET

THE mullet, *Mugil cephalus* Linnæus, known as *ama-ama* in the native language, is one of the most extensively used food fishes of the Hawaiian Islands. The custom of taking very young mullet from the sea and stocking ponds with them has been practised for a long time. These ponds, usually walled-off arms of bays, are frequently of several acres in area and from them are taken annually thousands of mullet which have developed to marketable size within these enclosures.

Although a well-known fish, aside from the fact that the fishermen have learned to know the approximate time of the year when the fry are abundant in the sea, no definite information is at hand relative to the spawning season of the mullet or the conditions favorable to this process or to its later growth and development in these waters.

With a view of undertaking artificial propagation of the mullet the Board of Fish and Game Commissioners of the Territory delegated Mr. H. L. Kelley, executive officer, assisted by Mr. Irwin H. Wilson, fish culturist, to establish a small fish hatchery at Kalahuipuaa, Hawaii, which was completed early in January of the present year. From observations during previous years it was believed that the mullet spawned during January. In the pond on which the hatchery was located it was estimated that there were approximately 1,000 mature females approaching the period of spawning and nearly as many mature males. Careful observations were kept upon the condition of the mullet throughout January and February but no indications of spawning were to be seen. Attempts were made to force the